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HQ-252
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Sec. 1

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

K

September 24, 1940

~~8~~
FRIENDS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OF AMERICA

The following information was received from an outside unknown source, dated at Chicago, Illinois, August 5, 1940, and is being made a part of the files of the Bureau for record purposes only:

"Another outfit is the Friends of Public Schools of America, with headquarters at 20 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago. The major domo of this outfit is Major General Amos A. Fries of 702 Albee Building, 15th and G Streets, Washington, D. C. This outfit fights Communists and also fights the Catholic Church.

The Major General has been mixed up in several patriotic rackets in the past five years."

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22 JUN 7 - 1973

OCT 2 RECD
H. C. Galt

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

N 100-252-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 25 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

BOARD OF EDUCATION

CLEVELAND, OHIO

DEPARTMENT
OF
INSTRUCTION

January 3
1941

JAN 13 1941
ew

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

I am wondering whether you have any information regarding the work of the Friends of the Public Schools, 702 Albee Building, Washington, D.C. Some publications of this organization have aroused my suspicions.

Sincerely yours,

Allen Y. King

ALLEN Y. KING
Supervisor of Social Studies

AYKing/BA

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1/15/41
1-16-41
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JAN 13 1941

RECEIVED
JAN 13 1941

RECORDED
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100-252-2	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
5 JAN 7 1941	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
<i>ew</i> FIVE	

Records of Public Schools of Cleveland

RECORDED

EWY:MM
100-252-2

January 16, 1941

Mr. Allen Y. King
Department of Instruction
Board of Education
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. King:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated January 3, 1941, and to thank you for your interest in corresponding with this Bureau.

With respect to your inquiry I must advise that by virtue of a well-established policy of the Department of Justice all information contained in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is of a confidential nature. Accordingly I regret that I am unable to furnish any data concerning the organization to which you make reference.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
cc: Washington Field - with copies of incoming
MAILED

★ JAN 17 1941 ★

P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

How R for East
easy

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

March 29, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#245238
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/30/85 BY SP8BJ/KS

Dear Sir:

Merely for the information of the Bureau I wish to set forth hereinafter the content of a letter which was forwarded to MILES M. GOLDBERG of the Anti-Defamation League, Chicago, by his confidential informant, one "H" of Washington, D. C., who is probably identical with John M. Henshaw, an informant who has forwarded previous communications to Mr. GOLDBERG. It will be noted that numerous individuals who apparently are known in Washington, D. C., are mentioned therein.

"In your letter of February 10th inst, you point out that you doubt that the Jew-baiters have quit and instruct me to keep my ear to the ground more than ever.

I am doing so. Yesterday I called on Mrs. Amos A. Fries, ass't. editor of "Friends of the Public Schools", who bitterly denounced the Jews for attempting to get the U.S. in war; she praised Mrs. Dilling and the "Mothers" for their work on the Bill. Mrs. Fries is a personal friend of Mrs. Dilling. Both Mrs. Fries and her husband, Maj. Gen. Fries have been "quiet" Jew-baiters for several years. They work in close cooperation with Walter Steele of the National Republic, and also with Louis & Gloss Edwards, editors of the Constitutionalist. (Headquarters of the Friends of the Public Schools is 20 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago). Gen. Fries was sick yesterday, but I am to see him as soon as he gets back to the office. Perhaps I can pick up something on the undercover Jew-baiting of his Army friends. Sidney Hillman is strongly disliked by the Army Brass-Hats because he is trying to keep up the wage level on Army construction jobs. James Rennie, correspondence clerk, Military Intelligence Division, told me the other night that they were still successful in keeping Jews out of civilian jobs in that office, but that a few Jew Reserve officers were creeping in, but that they would not occupy important positions.

ELIZABETH

RECORDED & INDEXED

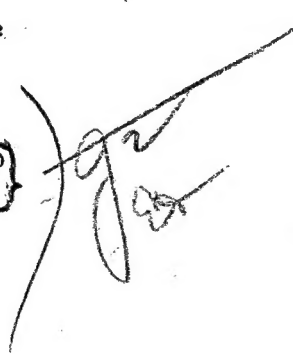
100-252-3
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 31 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-143040-1

DIRECTOR

3/29/41

I find that there is a small group of Jew-baiters in the Civil Service Commission, who are trying to discredit every Jew employee down there as Reds. These Jew-baiters have searched the personnel files of the Jews employed in the Commission and have even investigated court records to get a line on the Jew employees of the Commission. I only know the name of one of the Civil Service Jew-baiting group, a Mrs. Fry, but I think eventually she'll let out the names of her group. She is trying to get publicity against the Jews in the Commission, but not on religious-racial grounds—she is too clever for that! She is trying to depict them as reds, crooks, and incompetents. From the intimate details she gives on the Jews in the various divisions of the vast Commission, her group must be scattered around all over the Commission. With your permission, I would please like to advise Commissioner Arthur Flemming about these Jew-baiting activities as soon as I can learn the names of Mrs. Fry's co-workers? If I reported to him now, he would immediately order the Investigation Division to go after them, but I have my doubts of James Yaden, chief investigator, who belongs to the "Old Guard" of the Commission and hates the New Dealers who have crowded in the past few years. Yaden is a close friend of Dave Babb, former attorney for Pelley. I think I'll sound Babb out to find out how Jim feels about the Jews in the Commission. There has been friction and undue delays in the recruitment of personnel for the defense agencies. Some of the trouble has been within the Commission itself and some of it between the Commission and the War Department. I have a tip from a responsible official that A. Heath Onthank, personnel director of the War Department, is pro-Nazi. It would not sound possible were it not for that fact that I got my information from Edgar Puryear, Personnel Director of the Public Administration, who has never given me a bum steer yet....I was just now interrupted by a knock on the office door and was handed a memo from the city editor to Mr. Riley stating that the Feud between the Hitler sympathizers and pro-Americans in the Agriculture Department is about to break out in the open because some clerk is resigning rather than work with the pro-Nazi.



DIRECTOR

3/29/41

I phoned Riley and he told me to rush down to the Agriculture Dept. and double-check the story. Of course, there may not be anything to it since it came into the city-room as a phone tip...I must cut off now and get down there - will write you again this evening."

Very truly yours,

W. S. Devereaux

W. S. DEVEREAUX
Special Agent in Charge.

WSD:MG

cc-Washington Field

JOHN COCHRAN
13TH DIST. MISSOURI

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

COMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS
EXPENDITURES IN THE EXECUTIVE DEPART-
MENTS
COINAGE, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES
SELECT COMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION OF
WILDLIFE RESOURCES
MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

September 22, 1941

P
X
ms
Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am enclosing a letter I received from
Professor Charles A. Lee, of Washington University,
Saint Louis, Missouri, concerning a publication.

Do you have any information about this?

Sincerely yours,

John Cochran

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100-252-4
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 SEP 23 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
[Signature]

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Saint Louis

September 17, 1941

Hon. John J. Cochran
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

There is an organization in Washington, D. C., known as the FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA. This organization publishes monthly a small bulletin. The editor is Major General Amos A. Fries.

This bulletin is one of the most intollerant publications that I read. I would like for some committee in Washington, D. C., to investigate this organization to see how and where it gets its funds. In case such an investigation does not fall within the scope of your work, please pass this letter along to the proper person.

Very truly yours,

Chas. A. Lee

Professor of Education and
Director of Educational Service

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100-252-4

September 26, 1941

RECORDED

Honorable John J. Cochran
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman:

Your letter of September 22, 1941, with which you forwarded a communication addressed to you by Professor Charles A. Lee of the Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, concerning the publication, "Friends of the Public Schools of America" has been received at this Bureau. I wish to express my appreciation for your courtesy in communicating with me.

With respect to your request I regret that I must advise that by virtue of a well-established policy of the Department of Justice, all information contained in the files of the FBI is strictly confidential and can be disclosed only upon express authority of the Attorney General. Accordingly, I am unable to be of assistance to you and I know you will understand my position in this matter.

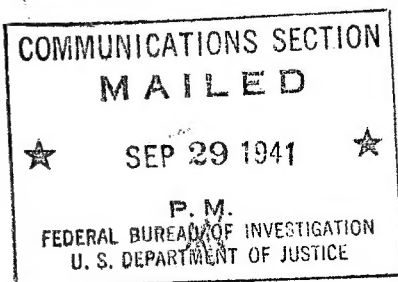
I am returning herewith the enclosure of your letter inasmuch as I believe you may desire to retain it in your files.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

SEP 26 4 22 PM '41
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F B I
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Drayton _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____



SEP 29 3 35 PM '41
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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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J. J. Cochran
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~~100-229647-1~~

100-252-4X

September 27, 1943

SAC, Chicago

RE: FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the letter in the captioned matter directed to the Bureau by the Denver Field Division under date of August 31, 1943, a copy of which was designated for your Field Division.

It is desired that highly discreet inquiries be made with respect to the instant organization to determine its character and make-up as well as any information concerning possible Communist Party influence or control of this organization.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECEIVED-NOV 10 1943

25 30 1 08 PM '43

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
SEP 28 1943 P.M.
F
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
14 SEP 30 1943

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

Denver, Colorado
August 31, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dear Sir:

Mr. ROY M. CARLSON, 1515 15th Street, Greeley, Colorado, who is registrar of the Colorado State College of Education, has made the following information available to this office:

He stated that a bulletin published by the "Friends of the Public Schools" and edited by Major General AMOS A. FRIES, 702 Albee Building, 15th and C Streets, Chicago, Illinois, was an un-American publication and should be investigated by this Bureau, if it has not already been done.

Mr. CARLSON stated that in addition to this publication, there were several writers who wrote articles in the Friends of Public Schools and in other additional publications which he thought were much too liberal, and after much study of their work believed that they are Communistic in their ideals and that their policy is (1) manipulation (2) direction (3) tribute.

The names of these writers are HAROLD O. RUGG, GEORGE S. COUNTS and THOMAS H. BRIGGS.

Mr. CARLSON stated that they advocate collectivism outwardly and that it is his opinion that they would advocate actual revolution if necessary. Mr. CARLSON stated that Doctor WILFORD AIKIN, Ohio State University, recently published an article entitled, "Eight-year Study" in the January issue of the North Central Association quarterly which was also of an un-American nature.

With regard to the informant, he stated he had had his present position since 1921, is a member of the American Legion and has two sons in the armed forces. He stated that the above articles and writers are Marxian in character, even though some of them appear to be reliable persons.

Mr. CARLSON requested that his name be kept confidential in any investigation that might be conducted along these lines due to his relationships in the school.

A check of the indices of the Denver Field Division reveals that GEORGE S. COUNTS, one of the names given by Mr. CARLSON, was listed on a



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22 JUN 7 - 1973

G. I. F.

Denver to Director

Re: FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

August 31, 1943

- 2 -

communication from the Headquarters of the Eighth Corps Area, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Military Intelligence, dated February 23, 1942. The information contained therein is as follows:

"~~GEORGE~~ COUNTS. On July 14, 1932 one Professor George S. Counts was a member of the committee which selected negroes to go to Russia in order to make a film. In the same year one George Counts was reported as an agitator against war and protested against the use of a police force to suppress liberal student activities at the City College of New York. In 1933 he was one of the supporters of the National Committee of Students' Congress Against War. He advocated the recognition of Russia and was reported as a pacifist at Columbia University. In 1934, he was a member of the National Committee of the League of the Second United States Congress Against War and Fascism. In November 1941, one Professor George Counts was among those at a meeting of the Communist Party at Denver, Colorado called by James Allander in re disposition of fund raised for ~~Russian~~ War Relief to maintain the Party after the war was over."

No action is contemplated in this matter by the Denver Field Division.

Very truly yours,

Gordon A. Nicholson
GORDON A. NICHOLSON
SAC

PLY:VS
100-0-

cc - Chicago

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

FILE NO. **61-1392**

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE WHEN MADE 11/6/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/12, 13, 14, 16, 18; 11/3, 4/43	REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM L. RYAN WLR:jmb
TITLE FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Organization founded in April 1937 at Chicago, Illinois. Has headquarters in Chicago and sub-offices in Washington, D.C. Purpose of organization is to organize on a national basis for defense of public tax supported education. Officers set out. Major General AMOS A. FRIES is editor of bulletin for organization, which is published in Washington, D.C. No indication that organization has Communist sympathies, but is described as a patriotic organization and foe of Communism. Review of bulletins show that organization attacks such individuals as GEORGE S. COUNTS, HAROLD O. RUGG, and THOMAS H. BRIGGS, who are internationally known educators. Bulletins expose Communist teachers and textbooks in public schools.

C

REFERENCE:

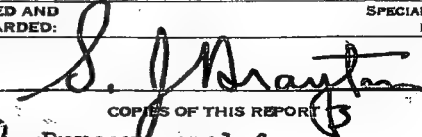
Bureau letter dated September 27, 1943. Bureau file 100-229647.

DETAILS:

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:

ORIGIN

The FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA was founded at Chicago, Illinois in April 1937 by Mrs. GRETA S. DEFFENBAUGH, a former school teacher in the Chicago Public School System. At the present time the National headquarters are at 20 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Illinois and there is a suboffice which is maintained by Major General AMOS A. FRIES, 702 Albee Bldg.,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau encl-6 1 - Denver info 1 - Washington 3 - Chicago		100-252-4X1	RECORDED & INDEXED 157 EX-54
COPIES DESTROYED		31 NOV 10 1943	

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REPLICATION

15th and G Sts., Washington, D.C. The above information was obtained from Mrs. DEFFENBAUGH, who was contacted under the pretext that the writer was enlisting her aid in securing information concerning possible subversive activities in public schools. Her information was substantiated by a review of the files at the office of [REDACTED], whose identity is known to the Bureau.

PURPOSE

This organization was founded for the purpose of organizing on a National basis for the defense of public tax supported education. A review of the bulletins published by the organization discloses that this organization has for its primary purpose the principle of maintaining a tax fund for public schools alone in order the tax is not diverted for a lay or sectarian school.

The organization of recent date has been opposed to the use of federal funds for the maintenance of public schools inasmuch as the organization believes that each state should support its public schools, and that public schools should not be subsidized by federal funds.

PUBLICATION

The publication of the FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA is called the "Bulletin of the Friends of the Public Schools." This bulletin is published monthly at Washington, D.C. by the editor, Major General AMOS A. FRIES.

Mrs. DEFFENBAUGH advised that Major General FRIES writes almost all the material which appears in the bulletin. A review of the bulletins secured from Mrs. DEFFENBAUGH, and bulletins maintained in the files of [REDACTED], whose identity is known to the Bureau, discloses that the bulletin is anti-communistic, and that it repeatedly attacks many left wing educators, and radical organizations.

OFFICERS

President: Mrs. CLAUDE I. PALMER, Chicago, Illinois

Honorary President: Mrs. GRETA S. DEFFENBAUGH, Chicago, Illinois

Honorary Vice-President: WILBUR HELM, Chicago, Illinois

It should be noted that until 1941 Mrs. DEFFENBAUGH was executive secretary of this organization, but upon the death of the former honorary president, WILLIAM F. WOODWARD, she was chosen as honorary president.

Chicago file 61-1392

Mrs. DEFFENBAUGH advised that this organization has an Illinois branch with Mrs. CLAUDE I. PALMER as president, and with WILBUR HELM as executive secretary. She stated that the national editor is Major General AMOS A. FRIES, and that he is the most active person in the organization.

COMMUNIST INFILTRATION

A review of the files of the Chicago office and of [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, disclosed that GEORGE S. COUNTS was formerly connected with many communist front organizations; at one time was president of the American Federation of Teachers, A.F. of L., and at the present time is an officer of the Federation of Teachers.

Although COUNTS was connected with many front organizations, he has recently written a book wherein he attacks the Communist Party, and other various Communist front organizations. He is known to be a liberal internationally known educator. He has been repeatedly attacked in the bulletin "Friends of the Public Schools."

HAROLD O. RUGG is an internationally known educator, and the files of [redacted] show that his textbooks have been barred in the public school systems in many states. He too has been repeatedly attacked in the bulletin of the "Friends of the Public Schools."

THOMAS H. BRIGGS has been attacked in the bulletin of this organization, inasmuch as the bulletin claims that he is for a new social order. BRIGGS is a teacher at the Teachers College, Columbia University.

[redacted] Lt. MAKE MILLS of the Industrial Squad, Chicago Police Department, and the files of the Chicago office fail to show any further data on BRIGGS.

[redacted] advised that he is personally acquainted with Major General AMOS A. FRIES, the editor of the bulletin for this organization. He stated that Major General FRIES was the founder of the Chemical Warfare Division of the United States Army in World War I, and that he is one of the most intensely patriotic individuals in the United States.

This informant advised that FRIES has always been an opponent of Communism or any other "ism" which is opposed to Americanism, and that he is sure that any organization with which Major General FRIES is connected in any way could not be un-American.

Lt. MAKE MILLS of the Chicago Police Department Industrial Squad disclosed that he had no information concerning the organization or any of its officers.

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Mr. GEORGE F. COFFELL, Assistant Superintendent, Chicago Board of Education, advised that he is not acquainted with the organization "Friends of the Public Schools."

Confidential Informant T-1 advised that the "Friends of the Public Schools" is not influenced by any Communist element, nor is it interested in any communistic activities.

A check of the files of the Dies Committee failed to show any record on the "Friends of the Public Schools."

A check of the files of the Chicago office failed to show any information concerning the officers of this organization.

X [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that Major General AMOS A. FRIES is the editor of the "Friends of the Public Schools." This informant related that FRIES' name appeared in a list of names found in the notebook of GEORGE DEATHERAGE, but that analysis of the list showed that the individuals and organizations mentioned in the notebook were both subversive individuals and organizations, and organizations and individuals of unquestioned loyalty, and that the list appeared to be a "sucker list" of elements with well-known anti-Communist sympathies.

The files of the Chicago office failed to give any data concerning the "Friends of the Public Schools."

As stated above, a review of the bulletin published by this organization indicated that the organization is anti-Communistic, inasmuch as it has exposed Communistic teachers, educators, and Communist front organizations.

After discussing this matter with [redacted] he advised that it would appear that if any person believed that this organization was Communistic, that such a belief would arise from the fact that having read the bulletins of the organization a person of such beliefs did not analyze the contents of the bulletin in order to determine if the so-called writers were being attacked in the bulletin. A review of the bulletins indicates that after such attacks on HAROLD O. RUGG, GEORGE S. COUNTS, and THOMAS H. BRIGGS, it would not seem possible that such persons would become writers in the bulletin.

A number of bulletins of this organization were obtained from Mrs. DEFFENBAUGH, but it should be noted that these bulletins are not of recent date, inasmuch as the recent bulletins were not available at Mrs. DEFFENBAUGH's office.

ENCLOSURES: To the Bureau - the following issues of the bulletins, "Friends of the Public Schools" is being submitted to the Bureau: January 1940, March 1940, April 1940, September 1940, April 1941, and July 1941.

C L O S E D

Chicago file 61-1392

FOIA (b) (7) - (D)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

T-1,



HONORARY PRESIDENT
MRS. GRETA S. DEFFENBAUGH
CHICAGO, ILL.

PRESIDENT
MRS. CLAUDE I. PALMER
CHICAGO, ILL.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
WILBUR HELM
CHICAGO, ILL.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
MRS. MABEL MONTGOMERY

FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

HEADQUARTERS: 20 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD, CHICAGO, ILL.



MAJOR GENERAL AMOS A. FRIES
REGIONAL DIRECTOR
SOUTHERN-WESTERN REGION
702 ALBEE BLDG., 15TH AND G STS.
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

December 12, 1945

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington
D. C.

Gentlemen:

Under date of August 20, 1945 a Lt. William B. Marshall, Ret'd. drew a check on the Traders Trust & Banking Company, Spencer, West Virginia, for \$20.00 which I endorsed for him and which, because of my endorsement he cashed at the Army and Navy Club, Washington, D. C. The check was returned by the bank with the information "Not Sufficient Funds". I immediately wrote Lt. Marshall and also the bank. I asked the bank specifically if Lt. Marshall had ever had any funds there or if they had simply become depleted. The answer was as follows:

"Lt. Marshall has closed his account with us. However he said he would have some money about the first of the coming week. We hope that is true. We have had to return several checks in the past few days as his account was insufficient to cover them."

It would thus appear that Lt. Marshall had closed his bank account and then continued to draw checks. I addressed the first letter to him and inclosed it with another letter addressed to his wife, Mrs. Marshall, at Tacoma, Washington, October 3, 1945, requesting that he refund the money at an early date.

Not receiving an answer in two weeks I wrote him again, but not his wife, at the same address, No. 10 Stadium Way, Tacoma, Washington. No reply has been received to date to either letter.

Lt. W. B. Marshall is a Lieutenant on the retired list, "honorary". I assume that is because of his having at some time been a 2nd Lieutenant and under the law permitted to assume that rank upon retirement. He is however a retired Master Sergeant in the Army and I assume draws the retired pay of a Master Sergeant.

The address at No. 10 Stadium Way is the only address he left at Walter Reed Hospital where he was in the same ward in which I was being treated last August. In my letter to him I called attention to the fact that it is my understanding that it is a serious offense against banking laws to draw a check in a bank in which he has no funds.

Neither of the two letters sent, one addressed to his wife and one directly to himself, have been returned in the mail and hence I assume have been received.

and read by one or both of them.

He stated that his wife had a good position there and that she was his banker. He is a man of very good appearance, apparently between 40 and 50 years old, carries himself well and is rather attractive in his conversation although rather too forward for one to believe him really genuine. Yet because he was in the hospital and in the ward for officers and carried a Masonic card I took a chance of endorsing his check.

The War Department gives his address now as, Lt. William B. Marshall, c/o General Delivery, Elgin, Arizona. On November 3rd after learning from the Adjutant General's office his latest address I wrote him a letter sending it by registered mail with the demand that it be delivered only to him and requesting a return receipt. This letter was returned to me after about two weeks as unclaimed.

I suspect that possibly Lt. Marshall seeing the address on the envelope and feeling that it was a demand for money refused to accept it. This, however, is simply an assumption.

Very respectfully,

Amos A. Fries

Amos A. Fries

Major General, U. S. A. Ret'd.

AAF:M

cc: Mr. Rosen
Mr. Nelson

December 20, 1945

RECORDED

EX-40

100-252-5
Major General Amos A. Fries
Regional Director
Friends of the Public Schools of America
Southern-Western Region
702 Albee Building, 15th and G Streets
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear General:

Your letter of December 12, 1945, has been received and I appreciate your writing.

While we would like very much to be of assistance to you, I wish to advise that, on the basis of the facts you outline, it does not appear that this matter constitutes a violation falling within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau.

It is suggested that you might care to communicate in this regard with the appropriate local authorities.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Note: The Bureau indices indicate that an investigation was conducted of the Friends of the Public Schools of America in 1943 and no derogatory information was developed. Allegations made that this organization was Communistically inclined were not found to be true.

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Carson
Egan
Gurnea
Hendon
Pennington
Quinn Tamm
Case
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

RECEIVED
JAN 2 1946
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 JAN 2 1946



TELEPHONE
OFFICE 458
RESIDENCE 452B

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

CITY OF NEWPORT-RHODE ISLAND

MICHAEL F. WALSH
ACTING SUPERINTENDENT

HAROLD T. LOWE
SUPERINTENDENT

August 13, 1947

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am frequently in receipt of a publication entitled "Bulletin - Friends of the Public Schools". This publication purports to be published by the Friends of the Public Schools of America, Inc., Headquarters - 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois. The editor is stated to be Major General Amos A. Fries, 702 Alby Building, 15th and G Streets, Washington.

I would like to know whether this organization is as represented.

I would also like very much to know the status of an organization called "American Youth for Democracy". This organization is frequently presented as a means of teaching democratic ideals.

I shall appreciate your comments.

Very truly yours,

Harold T. Lowe

Harold T. Lowe
Superintendent of Schools

HTL:cs

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&
INDEXED

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F B I
19 AUG 15 1947

EX 15

August 25, 1947

RECORDED
EX-56
100-252-6

Mr. Harold T. Love
Superintendent
Department of Public Instruction
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Mr. Love:

Your letter dated August 13, 1947, has been received. While I would like to be of service, the files of this Bureau are confidential and available for official use only. I am sure that you will see the need for such a policy and will draw no inference whatsoever from my inability to comment on the "Friends of the Public Schools of America, Incorporated."

The enclosed publications, which I hope you will find of value, contain the available material on the other organization you mentioned.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

CYO Speech

Director's speech before the House Committee on Un-American Activities

How to Fight Communism

Photostat of Hon. Lawrence H. Smith "Extension of Remarks

in Congressional Record

Photostat copy of "AYD'S Aim is to Pinken U. S. College

Students"

Red Fascism in the United States Today

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

★ AUG 26 1947 P.M.

NOTE: The Friends of the Public Schools of America was investigated in 1943 and it was found that the allegations that U. S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION organization had Communist sympathies were untrue.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

53 SEP 13 1947
cm:mfl

Mr. Tolson ✓
 Mr. E. A. Tamm
 Mr. Clegg
 Mr. Glavin
 Mr. Ladd
 Mr. Nichols ✓
 Mr. Rosen ✓
 Mr. Tracy
 Mr. Carson
 Mr. Egan
 Mr. Gurnea
 Mr. Harbo
 Mr. Mohr
 Mr. Pennington
 Mr. Quinn Tamm
 Mr. Nease
 Miss Gandy

Sept. 15, 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

By reference from the Director's office the wife of General Amos A. Fries telephoned advising that she was the assistant editor of a bulletin entitled "Friends of the Public School" which has a circulation of about 35,000. She inquired if possible to have the Director's permission to reprint the article "I Believe in Sunday School." This is the article which the Director wrote for the Christian Herald and it appeared in that publication in December, 1945.

Accordingly, we are advising Mrs. Fries that the Director has no objection to her utilizing this article in her publication.

Respectfully,

L. B. Nichols

EX-65

JJM:RC

Assume Christian Herald
 will clear.

Yes, Mrs. Fries is
 contacting Mr. Clarence W. Hall
 Managing Editor, 27 E 39 St
 New York City

55 SEP 30 1947

THIS MEMORANDUM IS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES
 TO BE DESTROYED AFTER ACTION IS TAKEN AND NOT SENT TO FILES

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: September 24, 1947

FROM : MR. J. P. COYNE

SUBJECT: FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Beahm	
Miss Gandy	

Pursuant to your request there is being attached hereto a memorandum reflecting a summary of the information contained in the files of the Bureau concerning the above-captioned organization.

* FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA, SUMMARY

Attachment

JLS:mer

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15 SEP 25 1947

EX-42

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September 24, 1947

FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

ORIGIN

Mrs. Greta S. Deffenbaugh, a former schoolteacher in the Chicago public school system, Chicago, Illinois, advised that she founded the Friends of the Public Schools of America in April of 1937. At the present time the national headquarters are at 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, and there is a suboffice known as the Southern-Western Region, which is maintained by Major General Amos A. Fries, 702 Albee Building, 15th and G Streets, Washington, D. C.

PURPOSE

Mrs. Deffenbaugh further advised in 1943 that this organization was founded for the purpose of organizing on a national basis for the defense of public tax-supported education.

A review of the Bulletins published by this organization by Special Agents in the Chicago Office disclosed that the Friends of the Public Schools of America has for its primary purpose the principle of maintaining a tax fund for public schools alone in order that the tax could not be diverted for a lay or sectarian school. A review of the Bulletins issued in 1943 also revealed that the organization had been opposed to the use of Federal funds for the maintenance of public schools inasmuch as the organization believed that each state should support its public schools. The organization contended that public schools should not be subsidized by Federal funds.

PUBLICATION

The publication of the Friends of the Public Schools of America is called the "Bulletin of the Friends of the Public Schools." The Bulletin is published monthly at Washington, D. C. by the editor, Major General Amos A. Fries. Mrs. Deffenbaugh furnished information that Major General Fries writes practically all the material which appears in the Bulletin.

The Bulletin is anti-Communist in nature and repeatedly attacks many "left-wing" educators and radical organizations.

OFFICERS

Mrs. Deffenbaugh furnished a list of officers of the organization which also appear on letterheads being maintained in the files of this Bureau. The officers are as follows:

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22 JUN 7 - 1973

ENCLOSURE

100-252-8

President	Mrs. Claude I. Palmer, Chicago, Illinois
Honorary President	Mrs. Greta S. Deffenbaugh, Chicago, Illinois
First Vice President	Wilbur Helm, Chicago, Illinois
Executive Secretary	Mrs. Mabel Montgomery

Mrs. Deffenbaugh advised that although the national headquarters are in Chicago, Illinois, the national editor is Major General Fries, and he is the most active person in the organization.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

An unknown outside source in Chicago, Illinois, advised on August 5, 1940, as follows:

"Another outfit is the Friends of the Public Schools of America with headquarters at 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago. The major-domo of this outfit is Major General Amos A. Fries of 702 Albee Building, 15th and Q Streets, Washington, D. C. This outfit fights Communists and also fights the Catholic Church. The Major General has been mixed up in several patriotic rackets in the past five years."

During March, 1941, an informant, whose identity was not disclosed, stated that he had talked to Mrs. Amos A. Fries, assistant editor of the Bulletin issued by this organization, who bitterly denounced the Jews for attempting to get the United States into the war. This informant said that both Major General Fries and his wife had been "Jew baiters" for several years and that they work in close cooperation with Walter Steele of the National Republic.

During August, 1943, an informant stated that the Bulletin published by the Friends of the Public Schools of America and edited by Major General Fries was an un-American publication. He said that there were several writers who wrote articles in the Bulletin and other publications which he thought were much too liberal and whom he thought were Communistic in their ideals. The informant advised that these writers were Harold O. Rugg, George S. Counts and Thomas H. Briggs.

A confidential source advised that George S. Counts at one time was President of the American Federation of Teachers, A.F. of L., and in 1943 was an officer of the Federation of Teachers. Although Counts was previously reported connected with many Communist front organizations, it was stated in 1943 that he had recently written a book wherein he attacked the Communist Party and other various Communist front organizations. Counts was known to

be a liberal, internationally known educator, and he has been repeatedly attacked in the Bulletin issued by the Friends of the Public Schools of America.

The same source stated that Harold O. Rugg is also an internationally known educator and that his text books have been barred in the public school systems in many states. The "Bulletin of the Friends of the Public Schools" contained articles reflecting that Rugg has also been repeatedly attacked in this publication.

A review of this Bulletin also reflected that Thomas H. Briggs, a teacher at Teachers College, Columbia University, has been similarly attacked inasmuch as the Bulletin claimed that Briggs was for a new social order.

An informant advised that he was personally acquainted with Major General Fries, the editor of the Bulletin for this organization. He stated that Major General Fries was the founder of the Chemical Warfare Division of the United States Army in World War I and that he is one of the most intensely patriotic individuals in the United States. He further related that Fries has always been an opponent of Communism and he felt certain that any organization with which Major General Fries is connected in any way could not be un-American.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 12-10-47

FROM : SAC, KANSAS CITY

SUBJECT: "FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS"
SECURITY MATTER

There is enclosed a bulletin of the "Friends of the Public Schools", apparently published in Washington, D. C. This bulletin was furnished this office by Father EDWARD F. MCGINNIS of Mound City, Kansas.

There is no information in the files of this office regarding this organization.

It is requested that this office be furnished with a summary of the data contained in the files of the Bureau concerning this organization and advices as to whether or not the organization is subversive.

Enc.

ERNEST PALANDERS

HCB:ECS

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&
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32 DEC 12 1947

EX-16

BULLETIN

FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

KEEP CHURCH AND STATE
SEPARATE



KEEP THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PUBLIC

Vol. X, No. 6

Serial 111

Washington, D. C.

December, 1947

If Abe Lincoln Lived Today

Former Governor of Kansas Henry J. Allen recently had the following comment to make about Abraham Lincoln, according to *The New Mexico Freeman*:

"Had Abraham Lincoln been living today: The Rotary Club would supply him with a set of books. The Lions Club with a good reading lamp. The Cosmopolitan Club with writing equipment. The Kiwanis Club with a wooden floor for the cabin. He would have the protection of the child labor law and government old-age insurance. A kindly philanthropist would

send him to college with a scholarship. Incidentally, a case worker would see that his father received a monthly check from the county. The OPA would reduce his rent by 50 per cent. He would receive a subsidy for rail splitting; another one for raising some crop he was going to raise anyway, and still another subsidy for not raising a crop he had no intention of raising.

"Result: There would have been no Abraham Lincoln."

The Un-American Activities Committee of the House of Representatives

We would feel that we are utterly remiss in our duties as editor and a good American citizen if we did not express in this bulletin and in all public addresses and other writings our admiration for the fine work being done by the UNAMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES under the leadership of Hon. J. Parnell Thomas of New Jersey, the chairman of the sub-committee now holding hearings:

This Committee, originally headed by the Hon. Martin Dies of Texas, has performed invaluable service for the U. S. for the past several years.

The awakening of the American people today to the danger of Communist infiltration into every activity of American life has been wonderfully stimulated by the activities of this Committee. This fact, coupled with the refusal of the present Russian government to cooperate in any way with the effort to get treaties and an organization that would insure peace in the future, has awakened and aroused the American people to a unanimity of feeling against Communism that nothing else we believe could have done.

The un-American Activities Committee, in EXPOSING the underhanded work of some screenwriters and actors (and we hope soon of some educational leaders and

writers), is performing a most necessary work to save our people from going to sleep to such an extent that an attempted revolution with violence and murder in every corner of the U. S. will not be tried by the Communists.

A few in the nation have done everything possible to arouse the nation to these dangers over the past 25 years. Any educator or any other educated American who made a study of Communist literature published in this country could not have failed to realize 20 years ago these dangers, and yet everyone who, up until the last two years, attacked the Communists was called practically anything except a gentleman and a scholar.

The failure of our educators in this has been the most pronounced of all, and the next thing we suggest the un-American Activities Committee undertake is a thorough investigation of the activities of the N. E. A. and other educational associations, and educational leaders along un-American lines.

We would repeat here, it is not enough that educators be not leftists, Reds or Fellow Travelers but they must be rightists, vigorous, loyal Americans, teaching patriotism, love of country and a willingness to support the Constitution in peace or war.

If they fail to do this they have no place in the teaching profession.

ENCLOSURE

100-252-9

FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA

Incorporated

HDQ'RS: 20 WEST JACKSON BLVD, CHICAGO, ILL.

HONORARY PRESIDENT
MRS. GRETA S. DEFFENBAUGH
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

PRESIDENT
MRS. CLAUDE I. PALMER
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
WILBUR HELM
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

EDITOR, MAJOR GENERAL AMOS A. FRIES, 702 ALBEE BLDG., 15th & C STS.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE "FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA"
ISSUED TO MEMBERS, SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50c YEARLY

Educators Are Supposed to Know the Truth and Teach It

Because of the wild claims of many educators, and especially of a number of Hollywood actors and writers, that the Constitutional provision of free speech and free press permit them to write subversive articles or deceptive articles favoring Communism, we are reprinting the lead article in our Bulletin for April, 1942, Serial No. 46.

DOES "INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM" INCLUDE FREEDOM TO DESTROY?

In addition to the Constitutional phrases, "Freedom of Speech" and "Freedom of the Press," the "EDUCATIONISTS" have added "Freedom of Teaching," "Academic Freedom," "Intellectual Freedom," etc.

In the "NATION'S SCHOOLS" for December, 1940, we find an article entitled "INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM IN PERIL" by President Homer P. Rainey of the University of Texas. We have the greatest respect for the pronouncements of men of the rank of president of a great university. (Dr. Rainey is no longer President.)

But, just as great weight should be accorded their views, just so is it incumbent upon them that they give deep thought to their utterances—certainly those that go out to the schools of the Nation over their names.

In the article referred to, President Rainey, when discussing the U. S. Constitutional provisions which "establish and maintain political freedom," says:

"In order that the schools may meet this responsibility most effectively it is essential that there be no limitations upon the freedom of investigation and teaching." (Italics mine.—Ed.)

Later he clinches and clarifies his meaning by saying:

"What do we mean by intellectual freedom? It is simply the liberty to study and to teach without any repression or limitations whatsoever." (Italics mine.—Ed.)

As an afterthought he brings in the Civil War:

"It is worthy of note, however, that the Civil War was fought without any legislative restrictions upon freedom of speech, press or assembly. . . ."

We believe that these statements would give any person not entirely conversant with the facts a wholly erroneous idea of what is meant by "Freedom of Speech" and "Freedom of the Press" in the Constitution.

The Constitution does NOT guarantee liberty to teach, speak, write or assemble "WITHOUT ANY REPRES-

SION OR LIMITATIONS WHATSOEVER." We would call the attention of President Rainey to the following provisions of the Constitution. The first is found under Sec. 9, Article I:

"The privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, UNLESS WHEN IN CASES OF REBELLION OF INVASION the PUBLIC SAFETY MAY REQUIRE IT."

Now, when the right of the Writ of Habeas Corpus is taken away, all Freedom of Speech or Press goes with it, if the one who suspends the Writ so desires it. And that has a direct bearing on the statement of President Rainey: "that the Civil War was fought without any legislative restrictions upon freedom of speech, press or assembly."

We would just call the attention of President Rainey to the case of Congressman Vallandigham of Ohio, who, because of his utterances, which were considered hurtful to the Union cause, was arrested and denied the right of the Writ of Habeas Corpus. This was an application of the right to deny a writ of Habeas Corpus, not in ENEMY territory but in territory CONTROLLED by the United States, during a rebellion against the United States. Along this line, Lincoln wrote to the Hon. Erasmus Corning, June 13, 1863, the following:

"Their sympathizers pervaded all departments of the Government, and nearly all communities of the people. From this material, under cover of 'liberty of speech,' 'liberty of the press,' and 'habeas corpus,' they hoped to keep on foot among us a most efficient corps of spies, informers, suppliers, and aiders and abettors of their cause in a thousand ways."

He also said:

"The man who stands by and says nothing when the peril of his government is discussed, cannot be misunderstood. If not hindered, he is sure to help the enemy; much more if he talks ambiguously—talks for his country with 'buts' and 'ifs' and 'ands.'"

And a little later he added:

"Long experience has shown that armies cannot be maintained unless desertions shall be punished by the severe penalty of death. The case requires, AND THE LAW AND THE CONSTITUTION, SANCTION, this punishment. Must I shoot a simple-minded soldier boy who deserts, while I must not touch a hair of a wily agitator who induces him to

deserve? I think that in such a case to silence the agitator and save the boy is not only constitutional, but withal a great mercy."

Again (quoting the Constitution) in Sec. 3 under Article III the first sentence of the first paragraph reads:

"Treason against the United States shall consist ONLY in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort."

And then the first sentence in the second paragraph reads:

"The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason. . . ."

That, of course, is an absolute declaration that Free Speech cannot extend to the levying of war against the United States "OR IN ADHERING TO THEIR ENEMIES GIVING THEM AID AND COMFORT," as Abraham Lincoln stated in the case of Vallandigham, whose statements were lending "aid and comfort to the enemy" and therefore HIS FREE SPEECH WAS ENDED.

We would also call the attention of President Rainey to Sec. 6, Article I, of the Constitution; where, speaking of Senators and Representatives, the statement is made:

"They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same."

Thus even a Congressman in time of peace has not absolute "Freedom of Speech," because if he incited a mob to break the law it would certainly be a "Breach of the Peace," and, even though he were a Congressman or Senator, he would be subject to arrest.

We would also call the attention of President Rainey to a couple of Supreme Court decisions. The first one is the decision of the Supreme Court in the matter of the Oregon School cases—a decision rendered in 1925.

In referring to the power that states have over schools, the Supreme Court said the state had the right "reasonably" to require five different things in regard to the schools and the teachers. The last three are as follows:

(3) "that teachers shall be of good moral character and patriotic disposition."

In other words, no teacher at any time has the right to teach unless he be of "good moral character" and have a "patriotic disposition."

(4) "that certain studies plainly essential to good citizenship must be taught."

If the teacher does not believe in good citizenship, she has got to teach it anyhow or is not worthy, according to this statement, and can be ousted by any proper authority.

(5) "that nothing be taught which is manifestly inimical to the public welfare."

These decisions, which have not been contested, so far as the writer is aware (and they have been in effect for more than sixteen years), put very definite limits upon such Academic Freedom as President Rainey implied in his statement about "Intellectual Freedom"—that "It is simply the liberty to study and to TEACH WITHOUT ANY REPRESSION OR LIMITATIONS WHATSOEVER."

Again in that same year (1925) the Supreme Court decided the Benjamin Gitlow case in New York State. This was a case involving the right of the United States or of a state to punish those engaging in utterances or actions tending to overthrow the government by force and violence. The Supreme Court said in part as follows:

"THAT a State in the exercise of its police power, MAY punish those who abuse this freedom (of speech—Ed.) by utterances (a) inimical to the public welfare, (b) tending to corrupt public morals, (c) incite to crime, or (d) disturb the public peace, is not open to question."

"And, for yet more imperative reasons, A STATE MAY PUNISH UTTERANCES (e) endangering the foundation of organized government and threatening its overthrow by unlawful means."

These Supreme Court decisions put very definite limits to "free speech unlimited."

We think that when any man in a high position in educational or other circles talks about "Freedom of Speech" and "Freedom of the Press," he should qualify his statements by saying "WITHIN THE LAW." Certainly to say that any teacher can "TEACH WITHOUT ANY REPRESSION OF LIMITATIONS WHATSOEVER" is JUST UNTHINKABLE. If anybody should be accurate, it should be the teachers of American Youth.

We ADMIT the right to "study" "without any repression or limitations whatsoever." But if that study be arson, murder or treason, the student will have to put a steel trap on his mouth and handcuffs on his wrists or go to jail, the insane asylum, or the gallows.

This article is written solely in the spirit of truth and accuracy and the teaching of a patriotism that shall make American youth such believers in their Nation that they are ready to die for it, if need be, AS IS THE CASE TODAY.

Communist Propagators of Lies

In the Chicago Daily Tribune of October 10, 1947, there is a most excellent editorial entitled, "Red School-books in Wisconsin." We quote certain portions that name some organizations that are responsible for the destruction of faith and pride of young people in American traditions as stated in the editorial.

"Textbooks and supplementary reading matter used in some Wisconsin schools were designedly written to destroy the faith and pride of young people in the American tradition. Publications of the National Education Association, which has fallen under the control

of left wingers, were found to be advocating the destruction of American business and capitalism, which has made this the only prosperous large nation in the world today, and advocating the establishment of the same socialism which has reduced Europe to poverty and brought it a beggar to our door.

"Publications of Ginn & Co., a long time disseminator of British and internationalist propaganda, were found in some schools. These books libel the founders of the American government in an attempt to enhance British prestige.

"It is a good thing that *The Tribune* has a large circulation in Wisconsin. Otherwise, parents who saw their children's minds being distorted by left wing school teachers and subjected to propaganda disseminated by eastern publishers would have had little recourse.

* * *

"Quite obviously, this danger is not confined to Wisconsin. . . . The organizations putting out the propaganda are national organizations and they spread it on a national scale. Some of the same untruthful texts discovered in Wisconsin also were found in California. It will be surprising if they are not found in Illinois and other midwestern states.

"The propagators of these lies will, as usual fall back on the cry of academic freedom in defending their activities. **ACADEMIC FREEDOM IS NOT IN-**

TENDED FOR LIARS OR SUBVERTISTS. PARENTS ENTRUST THEIR CHILDREN, UNDER COMPULSION OF LAW, TO PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEMS. They have a moral duty as parents and a public duty as citizens to see that those institutions do not distort the minds of their pupils."

In this connection attention is called to the reprint on "Intellectual Freedom" on pages 1 and 2 of this issue. Under freedom of speech and the press, the Communists and all their fellow travelers, and their dupes, try to fool the American people into believing that the *Constitution guarantees the right of agitators to agitate and to destroy the government of the United States and all the people who oppose them.*

In the words of Patrick Henry, "FORBID IT, ALMIGHTY GOD."

The Supreme Court of the U. S. Hits Hard at Parochial School Claims

It has been stated time and time again, in this bulletin, that the celebrated five to four opinion of the Supreme Court of the U. S. on the New Jersey bus case would be followed by greatly increased attempts by the Roman Catholic Church to get free transportation, free welfare work, free school books, etc., from public funds.

One of these efforts was in Pennsylvania, where an appeal was made from the state Supreme Court's ruling that school boards could refuse to pay transportation of pupils to Catholic schools.

The Supreme Court of the U. S. dismissed this appeal, thereby sustaining the right of school boards to refuse to pay transportation of pupils to a Catholic school notwithstanding the New Jersey bus decision. That decision provided *only* that where a state law had been passed extending the right of free bus transportation to Parochial

Schools, the parents of the Parochial School children could be repaid the cost of transporting them to school.

The State of New Jersey had provided for the payment of transportation costs to parents of children attending the public schools. The Supreme Court of the United States simply sustained the right of the state to extend this privilege to Parochial Schools, and indicated it might be extended to children attending any private school whether operated for profit or not.

Thus the Supreme Court decision in the case of "Everson vs. Board of Education of the township of Ewing et al" **IS LIMITED TO CASES WHERE THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IS ABLE TO INDUCE STATE OFFICIALS to pass laws specifically extending the granting of public school money to Parochial and Private School children when passing such laws for Public School children.**

Americans Aroused Over Parochial School Efforts to Get Public Funds

On October 14th, according to an A.P. dispatch published in the *New York Times* of October 15, 1947, the Iowa Supreme Court ruled unanimously that public school buses may not carry private and parochial school children. The statement was made that "no United States constitutional issue was involved." The Iowa state laws, as interpreted by the Iowa Supreme Court, forbids

"public school districts from carrying private or parochial pupils without forfeiting eligibility for state school transportation aid."

The article states,—

"These laws, . . . even forbid arrangements whereby

private school students may ride in public school buses under a prorata, cost-sharing arrangement."

The Silver Lake Consolidated School District sought a declaratory judgment which would

"permit parochial school children living along established routes to ride in public school buses. The ruling was sought on behalf of itself and all other districts similarly situated.

"A representative of the State Attorney General's office said that since no violation of the Federal Constitution was alleged by the school district in the trial court, the opinion probably could not be appealed to the United States Supreme Court."

Educators Getting Some Needed Education

We have for nine years been urging the N. E. A. and other leaders of education to go to the states and urge the needs of the schools in each state. We have contended right along that if they would do that the teachers would be paid in accordance with the standards of per-

sons with the same education and type of work in each state. **THE N. E. A. AND OTHER EDUCATORS WORKING FOR FEDERAL AID TO EDUCATION HAVE CONSISTENTLY FAILED TO DO THIS.**

The awakening of parents to the failure of so many

schools to teach fundamentals, and to the difficulty of getting sufficient teachers since World War II, has been responsible for getting greater increases during 1947 alone **FOR TEACHERS' PAY** than the N. E. A. is asking for Federal Aid to be distributed, like the "dew from Heaven," everywhere in the whole United States.

In the October, 1947, Journal of the N. E. A. there is an editorial by Joy Elmer Morgan, editor, which starts out with the statement,—

"The state legislatures during 1947 passed legislation which will add some \$350,000,000 to the salaries of teachers in the United States."

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO SEE THAT EDITORIAL. It is the first acknowledgment by the N. E. A. that the states will give more aid to the school teachers alone than the Federal Government has been asked to grant for teachers' pay and all other school needs. Above all, no Federal Aid means there will be no danger of centralized Federal control over education. There will likewise be no chance of control by cliques of educators over all education.

Once again we call attention to the fact that every bill proposed by these educators, with only two or three exceptions in ten years, has provided that money shall be distributed to every state, rich or poor. As we have

stated before, this seems to be the very essence of bribery and Tammany Hall politics.—

The richer states must pay all that the poorer states get above their proper share. What nonsense it is to pour all this money back into richer states,—the net result of which is to increase the National Debt that already is a millstone around the necks of the American people.

We would repeat again the statement by four able Senators that "*states which cannot support their own education cannot support any civic activities.*" Furthermore, no state has ever come before any Committee of Congress with its tax assessment books, income books and so forth to show that it cannot properly support its primary and secondary schools, nor has any bill been drawn that will require states to do that in order to get aid from the Federal Government.

Some of the so-called poorer states have made it known in no uncertain terms by legislatures and through other official bodies that they do not want any Federal Aid for schools or otherwise. The danger of bureaucracy is a real danger in the United States, and bureaucracy in education would be the worst of all.

George Washington, in refusing a crown, crystallized forever for Americans a hatred of all Monarchical or Dictatorship forms of government.

Do Your School Children Sing the New Soviet Hymn?

We understand the new Soviet hymn is used in some schools. Before us is a copy with choral music which is used in some public schools, according to a letter we have from a well-known clergyman. He says: "*It is usually given as a means of cementing friendship.*" (With whom? is the great question.) *Our conclusion is that it is a travesty upon our own Constitution and treason to the U. S.* Verse two is the most objectionable.

Here are some of the verses,—

1.

"Republic, forever, the land of the free,
Joined in love and in labor for all men to see;
Long live mighty Russia, the union supreme
As the hope of the people, their work and their dream.

CHORUS:

"Long may she live, our motherland,
Long may her flag be over us;
Flag of the Soviets, our trust and our pride,
Ride through the storm victorious.
Lead us to visions glorious—
Flag of a people in friendship allied.

2.

"Through terror and darkness the sun shines today,
For Lenin and Stalin have lighted the way:
We crushed the invader, we hurled back the foe,
And our armies in triumph will sing as they go:

CHORUS:

3.

"In battle our armies have made themselves strong
Against ev'ry oppression, injustice and wrong.
In battle we, too, shall establish the might
Of a new generation, the children of light."

Louis Untermeyer is the author of the English text. In a previous bulletin we have given something of Louis Untermeyer's work in the public schools. He is the author of "Modern American Poetry" to which we gave our attention. This is authorized for use in the public schools of the District of Columbia as supplementary to the regular textbook, "Doorways to Poetry," also by Louis Untermeyer.

In this "Modern American Poetry" we have shown that practically all of the "moderns" whose poems have been used in these books belong to Socialist and Red front organizations. The exception is Walt Whitman, who is neither modern nor a follower of the Communist Party, perhaps because it did not exist in the days before the Civil War. Many of his poems are vulgar or even lewd.

The Louis Untermeyer's textbooks could be used in the public schools to help lay the ground for Communism by their insidious and apt swaying of the mind of youth. We find many references in the unAmerican Activities Committee of the state legislature of California to his role in uniting writers for socialism. We find him active in organizing the League of American Writers. He and Jean Starr Untermeyer both signed the call for the 3rd Congress of the American writers, according to reports.

According to the 1945 report on unAmerican Activities in California the call for the 1st American Writers Congress suggested the formation of the League of American Writers and

"boldly stated that the organization to be formed would be 'affiliated with the International Union of Revolutionary Writers.' It declared that the Congress 'Will provide technical discussion of the literary applications of Marxist philosophy and of the relations between critic and creator.'"

On page 121 we find this statement,—

"The committee is in possession of a photostatic copy of the proceedings of the First American Writers' Congress. *The most naïve spectator and quarter-witted participant of this first Writers' Congress could not have been deceived as to its Communist revolutionary character.*"

Browder was one of the speakers, and congratulatory telegrams were received from leading Communists. Karl Radek sent the following cablegram from Russia,—

"We, the Congress of Soviet Writers, extend our brotherly hand to all of the writers who are on the road toward us. . . ."

Browder said that he saw in them a will to help the Soviet Union but that their best aid would be to place themselves with the revolutionary minority in this country. *Langston Hughes, the revolutionary poet whose work is given in "Modern American Poetry,"* is one of the signers of this 1st Writers Congress. We quote from his poem, "Goodbye Christ."

"Listen, Christ,
You did alright in your day, I reckon—
But that day's gone now."

His contribution to this Congress was in the form of a poem entitled "Revolution." We quote,—

"Great mob that knows no fear
Come here!

And raise your hand
Against this man
Of iron and steel and gold
Who's bought and sold
You
Each one
For the last thousand years."

This negro's poems are pushed through many channels by these Communist-minded groups.

At the 200th Anniversary of John Paul Jones (Father of the American Navy), which was celebrated throughout the U. S. by the Navy, a poem by Langston Hughes was read which was reminiscent of the Communist song and poem, "Ballad of America," which was pushed in as the opening musical number at the GOP convention. The records show the glee with which the Communists announced those things.

In the "Red Decade" Eugene Lyons cites references to show Louis Untermeyer was with one of those organizations which condoned the blood purges of Stalin's domain (page 349) and was one who signed the public statement that the Soviet was not to be considered a totalitarian government such as Germany.

Now these are the types of socialist and leftwing poems that Louis Untermeyer selected for high school students to read. We had a case against him *even before he put forward the Soviet hymn* to be used for friendly relations with Russia.

The Great Books

That the civilization of the past may not die in America, its records have been gathered in 100 books and are offered as a liberal education. The first move to build a college course on the wisdom of the ages was made by Dr. Robert Hutchins of the University of Chicago and Dr. Stringfellow Barr.

Few college men have thought this venture could be carried out or would pay, but Drs. Barr and Hutchins found an old college on the rocks. They put their ideas into practice at Saint John's, Annapolis, where today we have a going center of scholarly culture. The idea took so well that different monied groups were induced to start a Great Books Foundation, so it would not be necessary to go to college to study these books.

This is also a part of the Encyclopedia Britannica project and, as such, will be pushed. Except in Chicago University, where the hundred books is an elective in the curriculum and in Saint John's where it is the entire curriculum, the books are offered to the public through libraries. In June there were 20,000 people in these classes in 17 American cities. They will be available to everyone soon. Chicago University is printing them at 60¢ per copy.

In Saint John's curriculum the Great Books were studied without deviation, but in the libraries we find a departure has been made. These books will give knowledge that has been the determining forces of our civilization, the thoughts that built society in the world up to what it is today. The greatest in art, science, mathematics, economics are represented.

The D. C. Library, operating on a three-year grant from the University of Chicago, has its program of study already in operation. We find that it is concentrating on economics principally. This program which began June 23 has for its studies "Adam Smith—The Wealth of Nations"; Thorsten Veblen (not on the Saint John's

list)—"The Vested Interests and the Common Man"; Lilienthal—T.V.A., "A Democracy on the March." The later program gives Arnold Toynbee, son of Arnold Toynbee of Oxford, who gave us the questionable University settlements and the Community Chest. His subject is the study of history. Besides, the group will study the Decline and Fall of Rome.

Mary Bingham in the *Courier Journal* of June 14th says:

"There are, among many others, two particularly significant aspects to the Great Books Foundation project. The first is that without a deeper and more widespread understanding of our cultural tradition as that is rooted in the great books, we can have no real spiritual and intellectual unity in a society like ours of diversified origins and violent contrasts. In such a society a constant struggle proceeds between the divisive centrifugal forces (both economic and social) which tend to drive us apart, and the unifying, coalescing influences which arise out of a widespread participation in a common intellectual and spiritual inheritance."

The other idea is that *with great technological advances the creation of a great new leisure class is inevitable.* "The whole character of our society may depend in large measure upon what resources are available for the beneficial and constructive uses of off-work time." She quotes a Harvard report as saying "never in the history of the world have vulgarity and debilitation beat so insistently on the mind."

This reading of the Great Books is a master attempt to counter vulgarity and debilitation with the invitation to learning, to give cultural and spiritual advancement and intellectual unity throughout society.

These study groups, throughout the United States

should be watched with extreme care. They may be wonderful; on the other hand, they are easily the means of moulding thought in the opposite direction to that intended. The list unfortunately includes Communist works and is being used improperly, as we have noted in the deviation of the D. C. program which one could hardly consider cultural.

Under the banner of the "Great Books," for which educational foundation money is appropriated, any book considered great by the head of the study group could be used. That is going on now. From this list could be culled a program that would make a curriculum for a Communist college. Scan it and see—Plato, whose Republic is now read by more people than ever before. It calls for a republic run by experts. (New deal planning?) Voltaire, 18th century free thinker; Rousseau's Emile—a sort of novel arguing for progressive education (NEA booklet). Smith, Mill, and Locke—government economics as such. Hegel—father of all German socialist thought. Marx, whose "Das Capital" is the textbook of Communism. Tolstoy—rebel of ordered government. Freud—breeder of immorality. Russell, whose "Principles of Mathematics" were superseded by his "unprinciples of morals" which he openly taught in our colleges.

All that is good and great is taught in these books. Some that can be used for base purposes are also there. It depends on where the accent is, whether the groups will receive culture, knowledge and understanding; or unsound, even treasonable ideas.

Homer: Iliad and Odyssey	Virgil: Aeneid
Aeschylus: Oresteia	The Bible
Herodotus: History	Epicetus: Moral Discourses
Sophocles: Oedipus Rex	Nicomachus: Introduction to Arithmetic
Hippocrates: Ancient Medicine and Airs, Waters, and Places	Plutarch: Lives
Euripides: Medea	Tacitus: The Histories
Thucydides: History of the Peloponnesian War	Ptolemy: Mathematical Composition
Aristophanes: Frogs, Clouds, Birds	Lucian: True History
Aristarchus: On the Sizes and Distances of the Sun and Moon	Galen: On the Natural Faculties
Plato: Dialogues	Plotinus: Enneads
Aristotle: Organon, Poetics, Physics, Politics	Augustine: Confessions, on Music, Concerning the Teacher
Archimedes: Selected Works	Justinian: Institutes
Euclid: Elements	Song of Roland
Apollonius: Conics	Saga of Brunt Njal
Cicero: On Duties	Grosseteste: On Light
Lucretius: On the Nature of Things	Bonaventure: On the Reduction of the Arts to Theology
	Aquinas: On being and Essence,

Treatise on God, Treatise on Man	Rousseau: Social Contract
Dante: Divine Comedy	Gibbon: Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire
Chaucer: Canterbury Tales	Smith: Wealth of Nations
Oresme: On the Breadths of Forms	Kant: Critique of Pure Reason
Pico della Mirandola: On the Dignity of Man	Constitution of the United States
Leonardo: Note Books	Federalist Papers
Machiavelli: The Prince	Bentham: Principles of Morals and Legislation
Erasmus: In Praise of Folly	Lavoisier: Treatise on Chemistry
Rabelais: Gargantua	Malthus: Principles of Population
Copernicus: On the Revolutions of the Spheres	Dalton: A New System of Chemical Philosophy
Calvin: Institutes	Hegel: Philosophy of History
Montaigne: Essays	Fourier: Analytical Theory of Heat
Gilbert: On the Lodestone	Goethe: Faust
Cervantes: Don Quixote	Lobachevski: Theory of Parallels
Shakespeare: Henry IV, Hamlet, King Lear, Macbeth, Tempest	Faraday: Experimental Researches in Electricity
Francis Bacon: Novum Organum	Peacock: Treatise on Algebra
Kepler: Epitome of Astronomy	Boole: Laws of Thought
Harvey: On the Motion of the Heart	Virchow: Cellular Pathology
Cornelle: Le Cid	Mill: On Liberty
Galileo: Two New Sciences	Darwin: Origin of Species
Descartes: Geometry, Discourse on Method, Meditations	Bernard: Introduction to Experimental Medicine
Hobbes: Leviathan	Mendel: Experiments in Plant Hybridization
Boyle: Skeptical Chemist	Riemann: Hypotheses of Geometry
Moliere: Tartuffe	Dostoevski: the Possessed
Pascal: Pensees	Marx: Capital (Communist)
Milton: Paradise Lost	Tolstoy: War and Peace
Racine: Phedre	Dedekind: Essays on Numbers
Grotius: Law of War and Peace	Maxwell: Electricity and Magnetism
Spinoza: Ethics, Theological-Political Treatise	Elaubert: Bouvard and Pecuchet
Newton: Principia Mathematica	Ibsen: Ghosts, Rosmersholm
Locke: Second Treatise on Civil Government	Joule: Scientific Papers
Huygens: Treatise on Light	James: Principles of Psychology
Berkeley: Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous	Freud: Studies in Hysteria
Leibnitz: Discourse on Metaphysics, Monadology	Cantor: Transfinite Numbers
Vico: Scienza Nuova	Hilbert: Foundations of Geometry
Swift: Gulliver's Travels	Poincare: Science and Hypothesis
Hume: Treatise on Human Nature	Russell: Principles of Mathematics
Montesquieu: Spirit of Laws	Veblen and Young: Projective Geometry
Fielding: Tom Jones	
Voltaire: Candide, Micromegas	

Colorado Teachers Tripped Up on American History

In the Washington Post for October 27, 1947, there is an editorial entitled "Ignorance of History." This covers the case of 100 teachers belonging to the Colorado Education Association who agreed to and did participate in a quiz to test their knowledge of American History. The result was astonishing. They received an average grade below the passing mark. The following statements are made,—

"The majority didn't know the name of the president of the Confederate States. One teacher guessed that the Monroe Doctrine guaranteed equal rights to all. Another said that the United States acquired the Western States from Spain after the Spanish-American War, and about half the group thought that the

Bill of Rights guarantees free education for all."

We are not surprised at this ignorance of American History. In the past 25 years (and still growing in intensity), there has been an effort by vociferous and voluminous writers of history to BELITTLE AMERICAN HISTORY,—to take all the inspiration, not to say the glory, out of American History.

They have claimed that there should not be more than a half dozen dates recorded in history; that dates are not necessary. And yet everyone who really knows history knows that he must have dates of important events in order that the trends of events can be understood. If this trend of events is not known and taught teachers and pupils naturally get distorted ideas of the develop-

ment of the World in all the civilized arts.

The most important of these developments has been the *rights of man*, which reached their culmination in the United States, beginning with the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

But the real start of the development of the rights of man was the signing of the Magna Carta by King John, June 15, 1215, at Runnymede, an island in the Thames River. There the Barons and Yeomen forced the King to sign the great Magna Carta of England granting certain fundamental principles, a few of which are embodied directly in our Constitution. Other rights were slowly wrung from reluctant kings and rulers over the succeeding 561 years until the writing of the Declaration of Independence.

Without knowing something of these dates, neither the child nor the teacher can have any proper conception of the time, effort and suffering it has taken to bring about the rights and privileges of the average man that has made America great.

This very fine editorial goes ahead to call attention to the *New York Times* Survey in 1942. The article repeated,—

"that only 18 per cent of our colleges and universities then required the study of United States history as prerequisite to a degree and only 28 per cent required it for admission."

The editorial further quotes Secretary of State Marshall as calling the "*teaching of history with undue emphasis on names and dates as routine performance.*"

The *Washington Post* also quotes Marshall as saying in an address at Lafayette College,—

"the crying need is for improved methods of teaching history, particularly in the high schools. A date, however important, he said, is merely 'an interesting fact' unless the person who has memorized that date appreciates its significance."

And that is why we emphasize the Magna Carta, why we emphasize that the Declaration of Independence was signed July 4, 1776, 15 months after the Colonies had gone to war with Great Britain. This last fact gets increased significance when we understand that at first (and during those first 15 months of the Revolution), the Colonies were simply fighting for the rights of Englishmen as they existed and were practiced in England.

When they learned that they must get aid from other countries in order to win they also realized that they must declare their independence in order to get such aid. Another important date is the acquirement of the Louisiana Purchase from France under Napoleon in 1803, made just at the time of Napoleon's rise to power and during the beginning of his war with England. He felt the danger of England's wresting the French possession (known now as the Louisiana Purchase) from him and thus making England stronger. At the same time, a less known event was the driving of the French out of Haiti by the massacre of their garrisons on that island and thus taking away from Napoleon his proposed military base for attack on England in the Western Hemisphere.

The same is true of the date of the acquisition of Florida from Spain in 1819. Another statement in which we concur most heartily is this,—

"... the comparative neglect of American history by college and university students is largely due to a failure on the part of most instructors to infuse into their teaching the excitement and romance that make the history of the United States, if properly taught, one of the most thrilling chapters of world history."

The report of the Commission of 16 of the American Historical Association went out of its way to belittle patriotism, thereby putting a premium on making history dull and uninteresting, and particularly American History. And now the belittling of patriotism is being preached in many educational circles except that today they are putting internationalism completely ahead of patriotism and Americanism. To do that, of course, they must cut down on ANY glorification of American History.

In conclusion we would repeat what we have said many times, that the people must take education into their own hands, as they did in the days when America was struggling from 13 colonies up to the glorious 48 states of today. And that means that schools must be locally controlled and supported. People appreciate what they pay for.

And that means no Pork Barrel Federal Aid that gives two-thirds of the states a little cash money in return for their votes. In private life this is called bad names, even a crime.

The Motto "In God We Trust"

If you will look at the coins of the United States, whether they are pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, half-dollars or dollars, minted after 1864, you will see the motto, "In God We Trust," imprinted on them. This motto was originated in the U. S. A. by S. P. Chase, then secretary of the treasury, in the year 1864, and has

appeared on all coins of this country. In a letter to the director of the mint Chase told how the nation could not expect to remain powerful or safe without the help of God, and he then instructed the director to prepare a device to place this motto on all coins.—Masonic Bulletin, Canton, O.

FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA
702 ALBEE BUILDING
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.
BULLETIN, SERIAL NO. 111
December, 1947

MR ERNEST P LANDERS
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January 9, 1948

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DIRECTOR, FBI

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Summary
FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS -
INTERNAL SECURITY - X

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Reference is made to your letter to the Bureau dated December 10, 1947, captioned as above, wherein you requested that your office be furnished with a summary of the data contained in the files of the Bureau concerning the captioned organization.

Accordingly for your edification the following information is being set out:

ORIGIN

Mrs. Greta S. Deffenbaugh, a former schoolteacher in the Chicago public school system, Chicago, Illinois, advised that she founded the Friends of the Public Schools of America in April of 1937. At the present time the national headquarters are at 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, and there is a suboffice known as the Southern-Western Region, which is maintained by Major General Amos A. Fries, 702 Albee Building, 15th and G. Streets, Washington, D. C.

PURPOSE

Mrs. Deffenbaugh further advised in 1943 that this organization was founded for the purpose of organizing on a national basis for the defense of public tax-supported education.

A review of the Bulletins published by this organization by Special Agents in the Chicago Office disclosed that the Friends of the Public Schools of America has for its primary purpose the principle of maintaining a tax fund for public schools alone in order that the tax could not be diverted for a lay or sectarian school. A review of the Bulletins issued in 1943 also revealed that the organization had been opposed to the use of Federal funds for the maintenance of public schools inasmuch as the organization believed that each state should support its public schools. The organization contended that public schools should not be subsidized by Federal funds.

PUBLICATION

The publication of the Friends of the Public Schools of America is called the "Bulletin of the Friends of the Public Schools". The Bulletin is published monthly at Washington, D. C. by the editor, Major General Amos A. Fries. Mrs. Deffenbaugh furnished information that Major General Fries writes practically all the material which appears in the Bulletin.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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★ JAN 10 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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The Bulletin is anti-Communistic in nature and repeatedly attacks many "left-wing" educators and radical organizations.

OFFICERS

Mrs. Deffenbaugh furnished a list of officers of the organization which also appear on letterheads being maintained in the files of this Bureau. The officers are as follows:

President	Mrs. Claude I. Palmer Chicago, Illinois
Honorary President	Mrs. Greta S. Deffenbaugh Chicago, Illinois
First Vice President	Wilbur Helm Chicago, Illinois
Executive Secretary	Mrs. Mabel Montgomery

Mrs. Deffenbaugh advised that although the national headquarters are in Chicago, Illinois, the national editor is Major General Fries, and he is the most active person in the organization.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

An unknown outside source in Chicago, Illinois, advised on August 5, 1940, as follows:

"Another outfit is the Friends of the Public Schools of America with headquarters at 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago. The majordomo of this outfit is Major General Amos A. Fries of 702 Albee Building, 15th and G Streets, Washington, D. C. This outfit fights Communists and also fights the Catholic Church. The Major General has been mixed up in several patriotic rackets in the past five years."

During March, 1941, an informant, whose identity was not disclosed, stated that he had talked to Mrs. Amos A. Fries, assistant editor of the Bulletin issued by this organization, who bitterly denounced the Jews for attempting to get the United States into the war. This informant said that both Major General Fries and his wife had been "Jew baiters" for several years and that they work in close cooperation with Walter Steele of the National Republic.

During August, 1943, an informant stated that the Bulletin published by the Friends of the Public Schools of America and edited by Major General Fries was an un-American publication. He said that there were several writers who wrote articles in the Bulletin and other publications which he thought were much too liberal and whom he thought were Communistic in their ideals.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

The informant advised that these writers were Harold O. Rugg, George S. Counts and Thomas H. Briggs.

A confidential source advised that George S. Counts at one time was President of the American Federation of Teachers, A.F. of L., and in 1943 was an officer of the Federation of Teachers. Although Counts was previously reported connected with many Communist front organizations, it was stated in 1943 that he had recently written a book wherein he attacked the Communist Party and other various Communist front organizations. Counts was known to be a liberal, internationally known educator, and he has been repeatedly attacked in the Bulletin issued by the Friends of the Public Schools of America.

The same source stated that Harold O. Rugg is also an internationally known educator and that his text books have been barred in the public school system in many states. The "Bulletin of the Friends of the Public Schools" contained articles reflecting that Rugg has also been repeatedly attacked in this publication.

A review of this Bulletin also reflected that Thomas H. Briggs, a teacher at Teachers College, Columbia University, has been similarly attacked inasmuch as the Bulletin claimed that Briggs was for a new social order.

An informant advised that he was personally acquainted with Major General Fries, the editor of the Bulletin for this organization. He stated that Major General Fries was the founder of the Chemical Warfare Division of the United States Army in World War I and that he is one of the most intensely patriotic individuals in the United States. He further related that Fries has always been an opponent of Communism and he felt certain that any organization with which Major General Fries is connected in any way could not be un-American.

100-252-8

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

ABILENE HIGH SCHOOL

E. L. FIEDLER, PRINCIPAL

ABILENE, KANSAS

March 9, 1950

Federal Bureau Of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to inquire if you have any information about the following publication, "Bulletin, Friends Of The Public School"? The headquarters of the Organization are in Chicago. Mrs. Claude I. Palmer is the president. Major General Amos A. Fries, 702 Albee Bldg., 15th and G Street, Washington, D. C., is the editor.

I am wondering who is financing the publication and if the publication has ever been questioned as to subversive activities. Have the names of the above mentioned persons ever appeared among subversive groups?

We are not subscribing to the pamphlet but it is sent to us regularly and we are wondering who is back of the high pressure type of literature printed in the bulletin.

If you can enlighten me on the above mentioned pamphlet I shall be most appreciative.

Very truly yours,

Henry Ewert

Henry Ewert
Social Science Teacher

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MAR 22 1950
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[Signature]

63 APR 4 1950

March 15, 1950

RECORDED - 16
INDEXED - 16

100-252-10

Mr. Henry Ewert
Abilene High School
Abilene, Kansas

Dear Mr. Ewert:

Your letter dated March 9, 1950 has been received.

While I would like to be of service in connection with your inquiry, information in the files of the FBI is required to be maintained as strictly confidential and for official use only. No inference should be drawn, however, that we do or do not have in our files information concerning the publication and individuals you mentioned in your letter, because of my inability to be of assistance.

You may be sure, however, that the thoughts which prompted your communication are appreciated and I am taking the liberty of enclosing some material of public record available for distribution which I thought might be of interest to you.

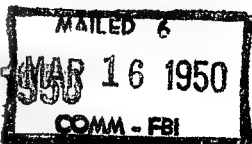
Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure
Director's Testimony
Need of 149

ARA:pg

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

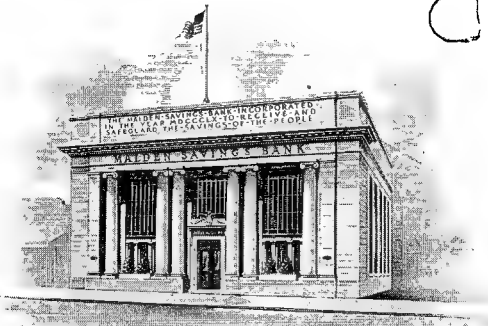


63 APR 4

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Asst. Treasurers

MALDEN SAVINGS BANK

MAIN OFFICE MAPLEWOOD BRANCH
399 MAIN STREET 16 LEBANON STREET
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

INCORPORATED 1860

March 17, 1950
30

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

As the officer in charge of the School-Savings Plan in operation at this bank, I have placed on my desk each month, a publication which has prompted my writing to you.

This bulletin is ^①FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF AMERICA, with headquarters in Chicago, Illinois. Its editor is Major-General Amos A. Fries, 702 Albee Bldg., 15th & G Streets, Washington 5, D.C. The officers listed are: President, Mrs. Claude L. Palmer; Honorary President, Mrs. Greta S. Deffenbaugh; 1st Vice President, Wilbur Helm, all of Chicago.

Can you tell me if you have had any experience with this organization. It would seem that they are anything but "Friends" of anyone. Can you tell me who General Fries is and if you have ever had occasion to look into his workings. Much of their literature is offensive to many groups and especially the Catholic Church and its parochial school system.

RECORDED-27
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100-252-11

The publication has a Postal Permit from Washington, #5520. I would greatly appreciate any information on this bulletin that you might be able to furnish me.

Sincerely,

EX-136

Charles D. McBride
Assistant Treasurer

March 24, 1950

RECORDED - 27

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EX-78

Mr. Charles D. McBride
Assistant Treasurer
Malden Savings Bank
Box 1
Malden 48, Massachusetts

100-252-11
Dear Mr. McBride:

Your letter dated March 17, 1950, has been received.

Although I would like to be of assistance in connection with your request for information, I wish to advise that it has been a long-standing policy of this Bureau to hold its files confidential and available for official use only.

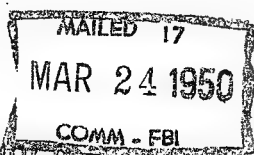
I am sure you will understand the reason for this rule and that no inference will be drawn that we do, or do not, have data in our files because of my inability to be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NJC:1ch

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____



52 APR 10 1950

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED - MAR 24 1950

MAR 24 1950



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

April 15, 1952

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Laughlin _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

In regard to the telephone call this morning from Major General Amos Fries who desired to speak with you and no one else, I wish to advise that I called General Fries back this afternoon and informed him that it appeared that you would not return to the office this afternoon and inquired if I might be of assistance.

Amos A. Fries

He stated he understood the FBI was conducting an investigation of his brother-in-law, John Shirley Hurst, for the State Department for a position to be assigned to Formosa. He advised that he had known Hurst for ten years and knew him to be a fine man, honest, and knew of nothing derogatory concerning him. He merely wanted you to know of his observations of Hurst. I thanked him for calling and advised him that appropriate record would be made of this recommendation.

It is noted that Major General Amos Fries is the Editor of a bulletin for the Friends of the Public Schools, an organization founded in April 1937 in Chicago, Illinois. The main file on this organization reflects that it was organized on a national basis to defend public tax-supported education. There are also indications in the file that the organization is anti-Communist but also is anti-Catholic.

We also have a main 100-file on Hurst which indicates that Hurst, as of 1942, had been employed for approximately twelve years by the Washington Post and was at that time serving in the capacity of Assistant News Editor. We received information in 1942 to the effect that Hurst was pro-Nazi.

On February 18, 1952, the Bureau received a request from the State Department to conduct an investigation on John Shirley Hurst under the Voice of America Program. The form submitted by Hurst, in connection with this employment, indicated that he was an Editor with the Washington Post from 1934 to 1948 and was an Editor of the Miami Herald from 1948 to 1951. From 1951 to present, he listed his employment as President, Hurst Distributing Corporation, Coral Gables, Florida.

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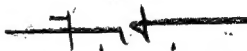
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Memorandum for the Director

On March 7, 1952, the State Department requested that we
cancel the investigation of Hurst as the State Department was no longer
interested in employing him. The investigation was discontinued.

Respectfully submitted,



F. C. Holloman

FCH:eff

D
LAWSON E. MILLER

5320 EL VERANO AVENUE
LOS ANGELES 41, CALIFORNIA

June 11, 1953

(9)
The Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I am a teacher in the Los Angeles City Schools and am very much interested in all phases of information on education. However, in the past few months so many organizations have been branded Communistic one is afraid to even have literature mailed to them.

I am not a Communist, never have been, and come from a family who were the first settlers in the Shennandoah Valley in Virginia in 1690.

The purpose of this letter is to determine if there is any un-American implications in the organization, "Friends of the Public Schools of America" 702 Albee Building, Washington, D. C. This group publishes a bulletin on education and I'd like to subscribe to it providing it has been cleared by our government. Would you write to me giving the status of same.

This letter may seem unnecessary to you but even the best Americans can be smeared by the most innocent act.

Sincerely yours,

Lawson E. Miller

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EX-120

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June 19, 1953

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EX-120

Mr. Lawson E. Miller
5320 El Verano Avenue
Los Angeles 41, California

Dear Mr. Miller:

I appreciate the interest which prompted your letter of June 11, 1953.

While I would like to be of service, I wish to advise that information in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. I would like to point out also that the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency, and it is not within the limits of its prescribed functions to draw conclusions or make evaluations as to the character and integrity of any organization, individual or publication. I know you will understand the reason for these rules and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bufiles reflect that the "Friends of the Public Schools of America" is an anti-Communist organization but is also anti-Catholic.

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Nichols _____
Belmont _____
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Glavin _____
Harbo _____
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Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
 Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI

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